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May 7, 2021

By ECF

Hon. Paul G. Gardephe United States District Judge Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

> Re: <u>United States v. Francisco Jose Maria et al.</u> 19 Cr 868 (PGG)

Dear Judge Gardephe:

I write requesting that the Court permit me and Mr. Maria to appear remotely at the conference scheduled for Monday, May 10, 2021. The Government does not object to this application.

I was unaware that the Court intended to hold this conference in person and I am out of town. I have conferred with Mr. Maria and he consents to waive his physical presence and to appear remotely. Attached is a consent form which I reviewed with Mr. Maria with the assistance of a Spanish intepreter.

As to status of this case, the parties have agreed in principle to the terms of a Plea Agreement and as soon as the finalized agreement is forwarded to me, I will have it translated for the defendant. We intend to request a date so that Mr. Maria can enter a guilty plea within the next 30 days.

If the foregoing meets with Your Honor's approval, then I respectfully request that the Court grant this request and "So Order" this letter.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel S. Parker

SO ORDERED.

Paul G. Gardephe

United States District Judge

J. E. Landple

Dated: May 7, 2021